

Library

CANNOCK URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

TOGETHER WITH THE REPORT OF THE

Chief Public Health Inspector

1958

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MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL, 1958

Chairman: Councillor J. Holston

Vice-Chairman: Councillor J. M. Sunley

Councillors:

Alderman A. Hampton, O.B.E., J.P., C.C.

R. Amos

F. T. Chilton

J. Hampton

I. J. Jacques

J. James

Mrs. E. Jones, J.P., C.C.

Mrs. I. M. Mincher (until May, 1958)

B. Nicholls

F. A. Pennington

E. W. Prime

W. Roberts

J. E. Steele

F. Turner (until May, 1958)

E. R. Whitehouse

Mrs. E. Astbury

L. J. Paine

H. Roberts (from May, 1958)

Mrs. H. Hallworth (from May, 1958)

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1958

Chairman: Councillor Mrs. E. Jones, J.P., C.C.

Vice-Chairman: Councillor I. J. Jacques

Councillors:

Alderman A. Hampton, O.B.E., J.P., C.C.

J. James

Mrs. I. M. Mincher

E. W. Prime (until May, 1958)

F. Turner (until May, 1958)

E. R. Whitehouse

Mrs. E. Astbury

W. Roberts (from May, 1958)

Mrs. H. Hallworth (from May, 1958)

J. Holston (from May, 1958)

STAFF

(at 31st December, 1958)

Medical Officer of Health	R. Webster, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. D.T.M. & H
Chief Public Health Inspector and Shops Inspector	J. Ball
First Additional Public Health Inspector	R. Heath
Assistant Public Health Inspector and Shops Inspector (unqualified)	N. Aston
General Assistant (unqualified)	J. Powell
Pupil Public Health Inspector	L. Medlycott

Medical Officer's Clerical Staff:—

(until November, 1958)	Miss B. Stanley
(from November, 1958)	Miss S. Corns

Public Health Inspector's Clerical Staff:—

(until December, 1958)	Miss G. Lockley Miss B. Stanley Miss S. Corns
(from December, 1958)	Miss S. Langston

Cleansing Superintendent C. F. Poole

Cleansing Superintendent's Clerical Staff:—

	Mrs. D. K. Batt's
(from May, 1958)	Miss M. Lockley
Public Analyst	Mr. A. Houlbrooke, M.Sc., F.R.I.C.

STAFF OF THE LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY WORKING IN THE CANNOCK DISTRICT

Mrs. S. Leach, S.R.N.
Mrs. H. M. Thomson, S.R.N., S.C.M., S.R.F.N., H.V.
Mrs. H. M. Box, S.R.N.
Mrs. M. E. Vaughan, S.R.N.
Miss A. M. M. Girdlestone, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.
Mrs. E. R. Iedington, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE CANNOCK URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the health of the District, and the work of the Health Department, during the year 1958.

The estimated population of the District was 42,490, an increase of nearly 500 on the previous year. The excess of births over deaths (natural increase) was 312. The actual live birth rate rose for the third year in succession, and reached 17·8 per thousand.

Apart from the favourable trend in the birth rate, the vital statistics were somewhat less satisfactory than they have been in immediately preceding years. The unfavourable disturbances were, however, fortuitous, and it can be anticipated that they will not necessarily re-appear in future years.

There was a sharp rise in the still birth rate to 36·9 per 1,000, which is the highest figure since 1952. The cause of still birth is notifiable on the certificate in Scotland, but not in England, and it is thus not possible to specify the causes of the increase in our District. However, it is known, in general, that many were due to congenital malformations, prematurity, toxæmia, and to difficulties in labour.

The infant mortality rate, which had been falling progressively over recent years, and had reached the low level of 21·3 and 23·8 in 1956 and 1957, rose again to 31·67 in 1958. The actual number of deaths was 24 in 1958, as compared with 17 in 1957. The increase (of seven) is largely accounted for by congenital malformations which are unavoidable, unremediable conditions. Thus there were four cases of meningomyelocele (none in 1957), two of hydrocephalus (one in 1957), one case of congenital heart disease (none in 1957), and one case of congenital kidney disease (none in 1957).

The neo-natal mortality rate was 11·45 per 1,000 and accounted for two thirds of the total infant mortality.

There were two maternal deaths during the year—the first maternal deaths of Cannock mothers since 1948. Both were hospital confinements. One death was due to toxæmia of pregnancy, and the other to pre-existing heart disease. Two cases of puerperal pyrexia were notified, which however turned out to be simple infections of the upper respiratory tract.

There were 474 deaths from all causes in 1958, giving a general death rate of 11·15, which is a little higher than the rate for the immediately preceding year. There was however, no striking departure from the usual pattern of causes.

During the year measles was the only infectious disease to attain widespread prevalence. The major incidence was confirmed to the early months of the year.

Apart from a small outbreak in May, there was little dysentery. The May outbreak began at Walhouse School, and there was some spread within the families of the school children. The outbreak was short lived and no new cases arose outside these limits.

Sporadic cases of food poisoning occurred from time to time throughout the year, but there was no major outbreak.

1958 saw an increase in the supply of Polio vaccine, and some 4,000 persons, mostly school-children, received a course of immunisation against the disease.

Diphtheria immunisation was on a much smaller scale—about 700 children were immunised. This figure is however the same as the annual number of births in our District, and the percentage of children protected against Diphtheria was 92%.

The number of new cases of Tuberculosis, which had fallen sharply between 1954 and 1955, and had reached the low figure of 9 in 1957, rose again in 1958 to 28. This apparent resurgence of the disease was due to surveys by the Mass Miniature Radiography Unit in our District (absent in 1957), to intensive follow up of contacts, to transfers from the Army and from neighbouring towns, and to cases of Pneumoconiosis which had been under observation for years, developing tuberculosis, as they are prone to do.

Reports of analysis of samples taken from the water supply to the District were uniformly satisfactory.

Sampling under the Food and Drugs Acts revealed a few failures in respect of 'quality and substance,' but generally speaking, results showed that good standards were being maintained for milk and other foods.

During the year the Council built 210 houses and 55 bungalows. 22 houses and 44 bungalows were erected privately.

The work of the Department has had to be carried on under the handicap of shortage of staff. Post war Public Health legislation appears to have outrun the supply of Inspectors. It is however, some consolation to know that the difficulties we have experienced, prevail nationally.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

R. WEBSTER

Medical Officer of Health

Public Health Department,
Church Street,
Cannock.
Tel.: Cannock 2096

SECTION A

Statistics and Social Conditions

Area of the District (excluding area covered by water)	acres 8,155
Population at 1931 Census	35,300
Population at 1951 Census	40,927
Registrar General's estimate of population to middle of year	42,490
Number of inhabited houses (according to Rate Books) at end of the year	11,877
Rateable Value, 1st April, 1959	£436,829
Product of Penny Rate	£1,540

Unemployment figures for the year were as follows:—

Date	MALES		FEMALES		Total
	18 & over	Under 18	18 & over	Under 18	
17.3.58	154	3	139	10	306
16.6.58	244	11	161	10	426
15.9.58	204	5	169	6	384
8.12.58	298	10	179	6	493

LIVE BIRTHS

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	379	348	727
Illegitimate	14	16	30
Total	393	364	757

Live Birth Rate per. 1,000 population 17.8

Area Comparability Factor:—

The Area Comparability Factor provided by the Registrar General is 0.96. This Factor X Crude Live Birth Rate gives a standard Birth Rate for the District of 17.09

Live Birth Rate per. 1,000 for England and Wales 16.4

LIVE BIRTHS

Year	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
Legitimate ...	750	712	720	646	689	627	591	683	687	727
Illegitimate ...	26	22	33	22	21	16	23	21	25	30
Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident pop. ...	19.00	17.86	18.45	16.28	17.12	15.64	14.71	16.6	16.9	17.8

STILL BIRTHS

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	13	16	29
Illegitimate ...	—	—	—
Total	13	16	29

Still Birth Rate per. 1,000 live and still births 36.9

Still Birth Rate per. 1,000 live and still births
(England and Wales) 21.6

STILL BIRTHS

Year	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
Legitimate ...	17	32	14	27	22	21	19	15	17	29
Illegitimate ...	4	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births ...	26.3	44.2	19.5	38.8	31.3	31.6	30.01	20.8	23.3	36.9

DEATHS

Nett deaths allocated to the District after allowing for inward and outward transfers:—

Male	Female	Total
253	221	474

Crude Death Rate per. 1,000 estimated population 11.15

The Area Comparability Factor provided by the Registrar General is in this case 1.12

This Factor X Crude Death Rate gives a standard Death Rate of 12.49

Death Rate for England and Wales 11.7

MATERNAL MORTALITY

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 live and still births	
		Cannock	Eng. & Wales
Maternal causes			
(excluding abortion) ..	2	2.54	0.35
Others due to abortion ..	—	0.00	0.08
		<hr/> 2.54	<hr/> 0.43

INFANT MORTALITY

Deaths under one year of age:—

	Actual Deaths	Cannock Rate	Eng. and Wales Rate
All infants per. 1,000 live births	24	31.7	22.6
Legitimate infants per 1,000			
legitimate live births	24	33.01	—
Illegitimate infants per. 1,000			
illegitimate live births ..	—	—	—

Cause of Death	Under 1 week	1—2 weeks	3rd week	4th week	Total 1—4 weeks Neo-natal mortality	4 weeks—3 months	3 months—6 months	6 months—9 months	9 months—12 months	Total Deaths Under 1 year of age
Prematurity	6	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	6
Birth Injury	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
Asphyxia	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Respiratory Failure ..	2	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	3
Hydrocephalus	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2
Meningomyelocele ..	—	1	—	1	2	2	—	—	—	4
Congenital Heart Disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Intestinal Obstruction	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gastro Enteritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Eroncho-pneumonia ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	3
Kidney Disease	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Totals	13	1	—	1	15	5	2	1	1	24

The following table sets out the birth rate, death rate and infant mortality rate for Cannock Urban District as compared with the rates for England and Wales, as a whole, London Administrative County, 160 County Borough and Great Towns (over 50,000 population) including London and 160 smaller towns:—

	Birth Rate		Death Rate	Infant Mortality Rate
	Live	Still		
England and Wales	16.4	21.6	11.7	22.6
London Administrative County	16.7	20.2	11.8	22.6
160 County Borough & Great Towns (including London)		NOT	AVAILABLE	
160 Smaller Towns ...		NOT	AVAILABLE	
Cannock 25—50,000 at 1951 Census ...	17.09	36.9	12.49	31.7

The estimated population, birth rate, infant mortality rate (I.M.R.) and Maternal Mortality Rate (M.M.R.) for the past ten years were as follows:—

Year	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
Population	40,890	41,080	40,810	41,030	41,230	41,090	41,730	41,950	42,000	42,490
Birth Rate	19.49	18.69	18.81	16.93	17.77	16.15	15.16	17.13	17.35	18.49
I.M. Rate	36.3	36.83	35.93	43.41	43.66	38.88	30.9	21.3	23.8	31.7
M.M. Rate	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.54
Death Rate	11.03	10.58	11.93	11.67	10.74	10.29	10.32	10.4	10.28	11.15

Chief Causes of Death in Order of Importance

Cause of Death	Male	Female	Total	% of Total Deaths in 1958	% of Total Deaths in 1957
Heart Disease ...	92	79	171	36.1	37.5
Cancer	46	38	84	17.7	15.2
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	30	48	78	16.4	20.3
Bronchitis	24	13	37	7.8	6.7
Accidents	18	9	27	5.7	2.7
Pneumonia	6	3	9	1.9	1.6

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1958

	Male	Female
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	2
2. Tuberculosis, other	—	—
3. Syphilitic Disease	—	1
4. Diphtheria	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	—
6. Meningococcal Infection	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—
8. Measles	1	—
9. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases ..	1	—
10. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	6	6
11. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung and Bronchus ..	6	1
12. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	—	10
13. Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	—	2
14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	23	18
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	1	1
16. Diabetes	—	2
17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	30	48
18. Coronary Disease, Angina	39	21
19. Hypertension with Heart Disease	2	3
20. Other Heart Disease	46	52
21. Other Circulatory Disease	5	3
22. Influenza	1	—
23. Pneumonia	6	3
24. Bronchitis	24	13
25. Other Diseases of the Respiratory System ..	5	—
26. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	—	—
27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	1	—
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	3	—
29. Hyperplasia of Prostate	2	—
30. Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion	—	2
31. Congenital Malformation	3	6
32. Other Defined and ill-defined disease	15	17
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents	7	3
34. All other Accidents	11	6
35. Suicide	4	1
36. Homicide and Operations of War	—	—
	253	221

NATURAL INCREASE — EXCESS OF BIRTHS OVER DEATHS

	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
Births	797	768	768	695	733	664	633	719	729	786
Deaths	451	435	489	479	443	423	431	441	432	474
Natural Increase	346	333	279	216	290	241	202	278	297	312
Estimated Pop.	40,890	41,080	40,810	41,030	41,230	41,090	41,730	41,950	42,000	42,490

SECTION B

General Provision of Health Services Within the Cannock Urban District

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The Public Health Bacteriological and Chemical Laboratories have provided a comprehensive service throughout the year. They have been most helpful with advice and information, as well as in the work undertaken for us.

Results of examinations were as follows:—

Swabs

Throat	Positive	Negative	Total
For General Practitioners	—	9	9
For Hospitals	—	—	—

Nose

For General Practitioners	—	3	3
For Hospitals	—	1	1

Sputa for Tuberculosis	77	946	1,023
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Other Specimens:—

Urine	—
Faeces	634
Blood	—
Others	2

In addition many examinations of water, milk, food stuffs, sewage effluents were reported on by these Laboratories during the year.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION & PERSONAL HEALTH SERVICES

No important changes occurred in these services as compared with previous years.

SECTION C

Infectious Diseases

INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (Notifications)

	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
Scarlet Fever	75	66	67	20	27	23	25
Measles	4	753	114	651	6	580	479
Whooping Cough	10	181	14	92	154	40	19
Diphtheria	2	4	1	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis							
Paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-Paralytic	2	7	7	2	—	—	—
Acute Polio Encephalitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	4	6	22	22	22	20	13
Erysipelas	—	—	—	10	15	7	6
Meningococcal Infection ..	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	2	517	30	19	18	51
Enteric Fevers	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	5	4	14	5
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	9	4	10	7	1	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	2	2	—	1	1	—	—
Gastro Enteritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	1

ANALYSIS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES BY AGE GROUPS

	Scarlet Fever	Measles	Whooping Cough	D'theria	Polio Paralytic	Polio non- Paralytic
Under 1 year	—	16	4	—	—	—
1—2	—	100	6	—	—	—
3—4	3	149	3	—	—	—
5—9	18	205	4	—	—	—
10—14	3	4	2	—	—	—
15—24	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 & over	1	1	—	—	—	—
Age Unknown	—	4	—	—	—	—

Age Group	Pneumonia	Meningococcal Infection	Dysentery	Enteric Fever	Food Poisoning	Puerperal Pyrexia	Ophthalmia Neonatorum
Under 5 years	2	—	13	—	3	—	—
5—14	1	—	29	—	1	—	—
15—44	3	—	5	—	—	2	—
45—64	6	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 & over ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Age unknown	—	—	1	—	1	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS

Age Groups	NEW CASES				Total	DEATHS				Total
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory			Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		
	M	F	M	F		M	F	M	F	
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5—15	3	1	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—
15—25	3	4	1	—	8	—	—	—	—	—
25—35	3	1	—	—	4	—	1	—	—	1
35—45	3	—	—	—	3	—	1	—	—	1
45—55	4	1	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—
55—65	2	1	—	—	3	2	—	—	—	2
65 & up	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	19	8	1	—	28	2	2	—	—	4

The number of new cases and the number of deaths for the past ten years were as follows:—

	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
New Cases										
Pulmonary	34	48	36	39	44	37	21	25	7	27
Non-P'monary	3	1	7	4	4	6	2	1	2	1
Total	37	49	43	43	48	43	23	26	9	28
Deaths										
Pulmonary	14	17	12	8	11	9	2	5	4	4
Non-P'monary	3	—	3	3	1	2	—	1	—	—
Total	17	17	15	11	12	11	2	6	4	4

Notices of Admission to Institutions were as follows:—

Groundslow Sanatorium	.. .. .	9
Cheshire Joint Sanatorium	.. .. .	5
The Limes, Himley	.. .. .	1

DEATHS from Tuberculosis in England and Wales as a whole, 160 County Borough and Great Towns (over 50,000 population) including London and 160 Small Towns, as compared with Cannock.

	Deaths	Rate per million
England and Wales	4,480	100
Great Towns	Not Available	
Smaller Towns	Not Available	
Cannock	3	71

TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER. The number of Tuberculosis cases on the Register on 1st January, 1958 was 268

The Distribution was as follows:—

	Bridgtown	Cannock	Chadsmoor	Heath Hayes and Wimblebury	Hazel Slade Cannock Wood Rawsley	Hednesford
Pulmonary	21	92	25	20	13	73
Non-Pulmonary ..	1	11	3	—	2	7
Total	22	103	28	20	15	80

Additions to Register. PULMONARY

No. of New Notifications	.. .. .	27
No. of Transfers IN	.. .. .	5
No. Restored to Register	.. .. .	—
Total	.. .. .	32

Deletion from Register. PULMONARY

No. Died	.. .. .	4
No. Recovered	.. .. .	5
No. of Transfers OUT	.. .. .	2
Total	.. .. .	11

Additions to Register. NON-PULMONARY

No. of New Notifications	..	..								1
No. of Transfers IN	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
No. Restored to Register	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
Total	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1

Deletions from Register. NON-PULMONARY

No. Died	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
No. Recovered	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
No. of Transfers OUT	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
Total	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—

CANCERS

There were 74 deaths from cancer, 8 more than in the previous year.
The following table shows the trend over the last 10 years.

Year	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
Deaths	66	60	54	77	77	67	70	88	66	74
Population	40,890	41,080	40,810	41,030	41,230	41,090	41,730	41,950	42,000	42,490
Rate per 1,000 of the Pop.	1.61	1.46	1.32	1.87	1.86	1.63	1.67	2.09	1.57	1.74

Annual Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector

To the Chairman and Members of the Cannock Urban District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in submitting my Annual Report on the sanitary circumstances of the district.

As usual, work on Public Cleansing and Public Conveniences, which is under the control of the Cleansing Department, is included in this report.

New legislation—work in connection with slaughterhouses and dealing with the Clean Air Act—is likely, in the years ahead, to add considerably to the responsibilities of the department, and serious consideration must be given to secure an adequate establishment of technical officers.

In spite of advertisements for a new Additional Public Health Inspector, no applications were forthcoming.

Miss B. Stanley was appointed Chief Clerk on 17th November, 1958, following the resignation of Miss G. Lockley, and Miss S. Corns was transferred to the Medical Officer of Health's department. Miss S. Langston was appointed Clerk in the department on 1st December, 1958.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES

FOOD HYGIENE

Perhaps one of our most important duties is dealing with the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, and the Food Hygiene Regulations. The improvements carried out under the Regulations are set out in Table 1 on Page 16. I much regret this work, due to the shortage of staff, deteriorated as the year progressed.

In the course of visits to food premises, swabs of utensils and samples of rinsing water have been taken and, as seen in Table 2 on Page 18, 296 tests were made, which on bacteriological examination proved most enlightening. It should also be remembered that crockery, cutlery etc., should not only be visibly clean, but should also be free from bacterial contamination.

The number and type of food premises are set out on page 3.

TABLE 1

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955
IMPROVEMENTS CARRIED OUT

Regulations	Improvements	Grocers	Green Grocers	Butchers	Cafés	Bakeries	Licensed Premises	Fried Fish Shops	General	Total
6	Cleanliness and repair of equipment	2	1	4	4	1	—	—	3	15
8	Food to be protected	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
14	Sanitary conveniences	—	—	1	—	1	2	—	—	4
15	Water supply provided	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2
16	Washbasins, number, hot & cold water provided, towels, nailbrushes, etc.	5	2	6	—	3	1	2	2	21
17	First aid materials provided	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	2
19	Washing of food—sinks, hot & cold water provided, soap, towels, etc.	1	—	4	—	2	—	2	—	9
21	Ventilation of food rooms	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
23	Cleanliness and repair—walls, floors, doors, windows, ceilings	4	2	1	6	2	2	1	—	18
	Totals	12	9	16	10	9	5	7	7	75

NUMBER AND TYPE OF FOOD PREMISES

Bakehouses	.. .. .	9
Butchers Shops	.. .. .	41
Cafés and Snack Bars	.. .. .	10
Dairies	.. .. .	3
Egg Packing Stations	.. .. .	1
Factory Canteens	.. .. .	25
Fish retailers and greengrocers	.. .. .	11
Fried fish shops	.. .. .	24
Ice Cream manufacturers	.. .. .	2
Ice Cream retailers	.. .. .	173
Meat Stalls	.. .. .	5
Restaurants	.. .. .	3
Retail Shops	.. .. .	323
School canteens and kitchens	.. .. .	28
Slaughterhouses	.. .. .	12
Wholesale food premises	.. .. .	8

CHEMICAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD

During the present year 173 samples of Food and Drugs were submitted to the Public Analyst (A. Houlbrooke, Esq., M.Sc., F.R.I.C.) and results of the analyses are set out in Table 3. Of the 173 samples taken only 4 or 2·3%, proved unsatisfactory.

Milk samples taken totalled 58 and satisfactory results were obtained of all. The average composition of all samples of milk was—Fat 3·4%, Solids-not-fat 8·72%.

TABLE 2

HYGIENE TESTS, 1958

Samples taken from	Number taken	Number Satisfactory	Number Unsatisfactory	Percentage Satisfactory	Percentage Unsatisfactory	Colony Count		Coliform Test	
						Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Nursery Schools	22	21	1	95.45	4.55	21	1	22	—
Schools	87	85	2	97.7	2.3	84	3	86	1
Licensed Premises	51	49	2	96.08	3.92	49	2	50	1
Factories	19	16	3	84.21	15.79	18	1	17	2
Cafés	37	36	1	97.29	2.71	36	1	36	1
Restaurants	45	42	3	93.33	6.67	42	3	42	3
Ice Cream Equipment	4	4	—	100	—	4	—	4	—
Hospital Kitchen	31	30	1	96.77	3.23	30	1	30	1
TOTALS	296	283	13	95.61	4.39	284	12	287	9

TABLE 3
FOOD AND DRUGS SAMPLES, 1958

SAMPLE	NUMBER EXAMINED			NUMBER ADULTERATED OR BELOW STANDARD		
	Formal	Inf'mal	Total	Formal	Inf'mal	Total
Butter	—	1	1	—	—	—
Cake & Pudding Mixture	—	5	5	—	—	—
Cheese	—	7	7	—	—	—
Cooking Fat	—	2	2	—	—	—
Cream	—	4	4	—	—	—
Drinks, Alcholic	—	6	6	—	—	—
Drinks, Soft	—	9	9	—	—	—
Fish,	—	6	6	—	—	—
Ice Cream	—	7	7	—	—	—
Margarine	—	3	3	—	—	—
Sausage	—	1	1	—	—	—
Meat, Potted	1	4	5	1	—	1
Meat, Packed	—	6	6	—	—	—
Milk, Canned	—	2	2	—	—	—
Milk, Pasteurised	—	20	20	—	—	—
Milk, Channel Islands (all grades)	—	13	13	—	—	—
Milk, T.T. Pasteurised	—	8	8	—	—	—
Milk, Sterilised	—	9	9	—	—	—
Milk, Tuberculin Tested	—	8	8	—	—	—
Sauces	—	5	5	—	—	—
Sweets, Confectionery	—	7	7	—	—	—
Tea	—	3	3	—	—	—
Vinegar	—	3	3	—	—	—
Dried Fruit	1	1	2	1	—	1
Fruit	—	2	2	—	1	1
Drinking Chocolate	—	1	1	—	—	—
Cereals	—	2	2	—	—	—
Jam	—	1	1	—	—	—
Fruit Pie	—	1	1	—	—	—
Unclassified	—	24	24	—	1	1
Totals	2	171	173	2	2	4

TABLE 4
DETAILS OF UNSATISFACTORY SAMPLES

Sample No.	Article	Nature of Contravention	Observations
577	Real Minced Turkey	Deficient of 25.1% meat	Cautionary warning given. Label amended
578	Cleaned Sultanas	Contained 0.30% of sand and grit	Cautionary warning given
596	Cod Liver Oil B.P.	Deficient of 1.U.'s of Vitamin 'A' activity	Cautionary warning given
601	Italian Apples	Contained arsenic of less than 1.0 part per million	Cautionary warning given

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD — MILK

At all premises registered, regular inspections were carried out and 261 samples of milk were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination and 13 samples submitted for biological tests for tubercle bacilli.

Results of all these samples showed that of the 274 samples only one proved unsatisfactory, it failed to pass the Methylene Blue test. Details of these samples will be seen in Table 5 on page 21.

Licences to use special designation were issued.

Dealers Licences:—

Tuberculin Tested	.. .. .	13
Pasteurised	.. .. .	23
Sterilised	.. .. .	68

Supplementary Licences:—

Tuberculin Tested	.. .. .	5
Pasteurised	.. .. .	5
Sterilised	.. .. .	4
Pasteuriser's Licence	.. .. .	1

TABLE 5

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) REGULATIONS, 1949—1954

RESULTS OF BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS OF MILK, 1958

Milk Designation	Summary of Results				Statutory Tests					Biological Tests			
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Void	Totals	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Methylene Blue	Phosphatase	Turbidity	Negative	Positive	Br.	Abortus
T.T. Channel Island	27	1	—	28	25	1	16	—	—	7	—	—	—
T.T. (farm bottled)	2	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
T.T. (Pasteurised)	45	—	—	45	41	—	45	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pasteurised Channel Island	7	—	—	7	6	—	4	—	—	2	—	—	—
Pasteurised	102	—	—	102	98	—	102	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sterilised	61	—	—	61	—	—	—	—	61	—	—	—	—
Tuberculin Tested	16	—	—	16	16	—	16	—	—	2	—	2	—
Undesignated	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	260	1	—	261	188	1	183	—	61	13	—	13	—

ICE CREAM

Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, Etc.) Regulations, 1947—1952

Only one manufacturer in this district is carrying out the heat treatment procedure on his premises and there is one manufacturer who uses the 'cold mix' method.

Throughout the district there are at present 173 premises registered for the 'sale only' of ice cream.

In 1958 a total of 167 samples were taken and the Public Health Laboratory Service found that 157 fell in Grade 1; 7 in Grade 2; 2 in Grade 3 and 1 in Grade 4.

Details of results of samples taken are to be seen in Table 6 on page 23.

MISCELLANEOUS FOODS

In the course of frequent visits to an Egg Packing Station in this area 20 samples of Liquid Egg were obtained, but no pathogenic organisms were isolated.

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

Towards the end of the year the Slaughterhouses Act, 1958, the Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations, 1958, and the Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1958, came into force.

The Slaughterhouses Act, 1958, makes it an obligation for each Local Authority to carry out a review of Slaughterhouse facilities.

One hundred per cent inspection has continued to have been achieved. This is carried out to the standard laid down in Memo 3/Foods and resulted in condemnation of 7, 865 pounds of meat and offal. There is no doubt that considerable improvement has been noticed in the condition of meat sold in this district. Bovine Tuberculosis seems to be gradually disappearing and in the not too distant future it may be clear of the country.

Table 7 sets out the number of carcasses inspected and the particulars of carcasses and parts condemned.

Local butchers continue, in many cases, to buy their meat 'off the hook.'

TABLE 6

RESULTS OF ICE CREAM SAMPLES, 1958

(Methylene Blue Reduction Tests)

Classification	No. of Samples	Percentage of total Samples	Number in each Grade				Percentage in each Grade			
			1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Local Manufacture (Heat Treated)	28	16.76	22	4	2	—	78.57	14.28	7.14	—
Local Manufacture (Cold Mix) ..	16	9.58	13	2	—	1	81.25	12.5	—	6.25
Local Manufacture (Total) ..	44	26.34	35	6	2	1	79.54	13.63	4.54	2.27
Other Manufacture	123	73.65	122	1	—	—	99.18	0.82	—	—
All Samples (Total)	167	100.00	157	7	2	1	94.01	4.19	1.19	0.59

TABLE 7 DETAILS OF ANIMALS INSPECTED

	Cattle except Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
No. of animals slaughtered	808	103	13	3429	3500
No. of animals inspected	808	103	13	3429	3500
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCI—					
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	1	1	Nil	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	83	12	Nil	35	433
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tubercu- losis or Cysticerici	10.27%	12.62%	7.69%	1.02%	12.37%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY--					
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	36	15	Nil	Nil	64
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	4.45%	14.56%	Nil	Nil	1.82%
CYSTICERCOSIS—					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised and totally condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

(Total number of carcasses examined .. 7,853)

TABLE 8 DISEASED MEAT AND OFFALS

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.
All Diseases Except Tuberculosis: ..				
Carcase Meat 		17	1	10
Offals 	1	3	0	1
Tuberculosis Only:				
Carcase Meat 		14	5	24
Offals 		14	0	11
Cysticercosis only:				
Carcase Meat 			1	2
Offals 				5

TABLE 9 **AFFECTED CARCASE PARTS**

	Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Carcases	—	1	1	—	1
Part Carcases	1	3	—	2	6
Diaphragms	2	—	—	—	—
Heads	28	12	—	1	69
Hearts	9	3	—	—	60
Kidneys	1	2	—	—	2
Lungs	36	19	—	—	423
Livers	80	9	—	35	25
Mesenteries	3	2	—	—	1
Intestines	9	4	—	—	5
Stomachs	8	3	—	—	5
Spleens	—	—	—	—	5
Udders	—	5	—	—	—
Uteri	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE 10
INCIDENCE OF DISEASE IN MEAT (Weight in pounds)

	Other	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Abcesses	248	85	—	—	10
Actinomycosis	246	86	—	—	—
Adhesions	—	—	—	—	—
Bacterial Necrosis	75	—	—	—	—
Bruising	—	1568	—	37	10
Ascaris Lumbricoides	—	—	—	—	1
Cirrhosis	—	—	—	—	26
Coenurus Cerebralis	—	—	—	2	—
Congestion	—	—	—	—	653
Cysticercus Bovis	35	—	—	—	—
Cysts	35	15	—	—	12
Decomposition	—	—	—	—	23
Fascioliasis	682	18	—	90	—
Hepatitis	18	—	—	—	56
Hydatid	45	15	—	—	—
Inflammation	3	—	—	—	12
Immaturity	—	—	20	—	—
Mastitis	—	33	—	—	—
Muscular Fibrosis	—	—	—	—	28
Pericarditis	40	—	—	—	76
Pleurisy	—	—	—	—	57
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	92
Swine Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	28
Tuberculosis	1502	778	—	—	907

UNWHOLESOME FOOD CONDEMNED

Food found to be unfit for human consumption is set out in the following table. All was voluntarily surrendered to the Public Health Inspectors at the time of inspection.

In all cases surrender notes were obtained and 513 condemnation certificates were issued.

TABLE 11
FOOD CONDEMNED

Type of Food	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.	ozs.
Meat and Offals	3	10	—	25	—
Meat, tinned	—	6	2	3	12½
Fruit, tinned	—	6	—	25	8½
Tomatoes, tinned	—	3	1	5	13
Vegetables, tinned	—	3	3	7	14
Milk, tinned	—	—	1	4	7½
Soup, tinned	—	—	3	11	12
Cheese	—	4	3	14	10
Biscuits	—	—	1	12	8
Tapioca	—	—	2	—	—
Ham	—	—	—	27	—
Pigs kidneys	—	—	—	24	—
Pork sausages	—	—	—	6	—
Self-raising flour	—	—	—	12	—
Groats	—	—	2	—	—
Rice	—	—	—	6	1½
Bacon	—	—	1	14	—
Cereals	—	—	—	4	13
Jam, tinned	—	—	2	1	—
Miscellaneous	—	1	2	26	3
Fish	—	—	1	20	15¼
Cake	—	—	—	27	—
Total	5	1	2	—	6¼

Disposal of Condemned Food

Diseased or unwholesome meat is destroyed by fire or suitably stained and removed for conversion into fertilizers. Controlled tipping in this district is the means of disposing of refuse, and unwholesome food is taken to tips and safely disposed of under the supervision of the department.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933—1954

New applications (two) to slaughter or stun animals in a slaughter-house were received and 62 renewals of existing licences were granted.

The slaughtermen continue to be informed of the necessity of obtaining a certificate required under the Firearms Act, 1937. A Captive Bolt Pistol for the use of licenced slaughtermen in cases of emergency is always available in the department.

WATER

Throughout the whole of the Urban District water supply for drinking purposes is obtained from the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company. Samples of water were obtained from fifteen dwelling houses and seventeen samples were submitted from water courses and effluents.

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS CONTROLLED BY BYELAWS OR REGULATIONS

Dairies and Milk Distributors	.. .. .	12
Purveyors of milk from other districts selling milk in this area		5
Bakehouses	.. .. .	9
Slaughterhouses	.. .. .	12
Butchers Shops	.. .. .	41
Meat Stalls	.. .. .	5
Mortuaries	.. .. .	2
Factories	.. .. .	130
Pet animals shops	.. .. .	9
Rag Flock Premises	.. .. .	4

Housing Acts

Housing work carried out under the Public Health Acts and Housing Acts is set out on the following pages.

HOUSING STATISTICS

1 Inspection of Dwellinghouses during the year.

(1) (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	.. .. .	294
(b) Number of inspections made for that purpose	..	1024
(2) (a) Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-heading 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	.. .. .	128
(b) Number of inspections made for that purpose	..	322

(3)	Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	84
(4)	Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	210
2.	Remedy of Defects during the year without service of Formal Notice.	
	Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers	115
3.	Action under Statutory Powers during the year.	
(a)	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 12 of the Housing Act, 1957:—	
(1)	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	0
(2)	Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice:—	
(a)	by Owners	0
(b)	by Local Authority in default of Owners	0
(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Act:—	
(1)	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	75
(2)	Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:	
(a)	by Owners	48
(b)	by Local Authority in default of Owners	0
(c)	Proceedings under Sections 16, 17 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1957:—	
(1)	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which demolition orders were made	2
(2)	Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders	5
(d)	Proceedings under Sections 18 and 27 of the Housing Act, 1957:—	
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were made	0
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit	0

(e) Proceedings under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957:—

Number of dwellings closed under sub-section	
(1)	1

Unfit Houses

Number demolished:—

Individual Unfits	8
Clearance Orders	6
Redevelopment Area	32

Clearance Areas Represented

St. Paul's Ward:

Nos. 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65 Wedges Mills, Cannock.

St. Luke's Ward:

Nos. 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19 Railway Street, Cannock.

Nos. 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 Walhouse Street, Cannock.

St. Chad's Ward:

Nos. 38, 40, 42, 44, 46 Burgoyne Street, Hightown, Hednesford.

St. Mark's Ward:

Nos. 169, 171, 173, 175, 177, 179, 181, 183, 185 Station Road, Hednesford.

Nos. 241, 243 Station Road, Hednesford.

St. John's Ward:

Nos. 132, 132a, 134, 136, 138, 140 Cannock Road, Heath Hayes.

Clearance or Compulsory Purchase Orders made

— N I L —

Houses Represented for Demolition or Closing Orders

St. Paul's Ward:

216 Churchbridge Top Locks, Leacroft. (Demolition).

74a, 76, 78, 80 Walsall Road, Cannock. (Certified Unfit).

St. Aidan's Ward:

120 Stafford Road, Cannock. (Demolition).

St. Chad's Ward:

65 Bradford Street, Hightown. (Demolition).

2 and 8 Moss Street, Chadsmoor. (Closing).

St. Peter's Ward:

3 Littleworth Road, Hednesford. (Demolition).

St. Mark's Ward:

88 and 90 Hednesford Road, Pye Green. (Certified Unfit).

68 and 70, Off Mount Street, Hednesford. (Certified Unfit).

St. Luke's Ward:

14 Stafford Road, Cannock. (Certified Unfit).

Demolition Orders Made

St. Chad's Ward:

65 Bradford Street, Hightown, Hednesford.

St. Peter's Ward:

3 Littleworth Road, Hednesford.

Buildings Closed

St. Chad's Ward:

2 Moss Street, Chadsmoor.

Houses Demolished

St. Paul's Ward:

177, 179 Walsall Road, Bridgtown. Certified Unfit.

1 Wedges Mill, Cannock. Demolition Order.

St. Luke's Ward:

2, 3 and 4 Bungalows, Spring Street, Cannock. Compulsory Purchase Order.

St. Chad's Ward:

65 Bradford Street, Hightown. Demolition Order.

St. Mark's Ward:

338, 338a, 340 Green Heath Road, Hednesford. Clearance Order.

401 Rugelcy Road, Hednesford. Closing Order.

94b Green Heath Road, Hednesford. Demolition Order.

St. John's Ward:

2, 4, 34, 36, 38, 40, 40a John Street, Wimblebury. Redevelopment Area.

1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 39, 41, 43, 51,

53, 55, 57 Arthur Street, Wimblebury. Redevelopment Area.

45, 47, 49, 51, 53, 55 Glover Street, Wimblebury. Redevelopment Area.

110a Cannock Road, Heath Hayes. Demolition Order.

St. Peter's Ward:

184 Littleworth Road, Hednesford. Demolition Order.

Houses Erected

					Private Enterprise	Local Authority
Bungalows built	..	..	..	..	44	55
Houses built	..	..	..	..	22	210

Repairs to Houses

The following is a list of repairs carried out to houses during the year.

Roofs repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	24
Chimneys repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Spouting repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	22
Houses repointed, roughcast or cemented	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8

Walls and ceilings repaired	24
New ceilings	15
New quarry and concrete floors	2
Quarry, brick and concrete floors repaired	6
New wood floors	2
New skirting boards or skirting boards repaired	2
New fascia boards	1
Flashings and weatherings repaired	3
Wood floors repaired	3
New firegrates fitted or firegrates repaired	12
New windows and windows repaired	24
New sashcords, catches, fasteners, etc.	3
New doors fitted and doors repaired	16
New sinks and sinks repaired	12
Coppers repaired	7
Burst pipes repaired	29
Yards paved and paving repaired	7

NUISANCES AND OTHER MATTERS DEALT WITH

Foul drains, water closets, cesspools, sinks, urinals	146
Accumulations of manure and other offensive matter	3
Defective water closets and drains	28
Dirty dwellinghouses	3
Dwellinghouses needing repair	159
Dwellinghouses overcrowded	16
Poultry so kept as to be a nuisance	4

NUISANCES ABATED AND IMPROVEMENTS CARRIED OUT

Water Closets put in order	56
New water closet pans	16
New water closet seats	1
New water closet flushing cisterns	3
Water closet flushing cisterns repaired	7
Choked water closets opened	2
Choked drains opened	46
Yards of new drains on 2 premises	15
Drains repaired	7
Drain ventilating shafts repaired	2
New dustbins substituted for worn out dustbins	950
(Council Scheme)	
New dustbins substituted for worn out dustbins	23
(Owners)	
New drain inspection chambers constructed	3
New drain inspection chamber covers provided	7
New sanitary pails provided	5

OVERCROWDED DWELLINGHOUSES

New cases found	3
Abated during year	6
Existing at end of year	16

COMPLAINTS RECEIVED

The influx of complaints received by the Department in 1958, was 607 and much the same as the previous year.

The complaints received were of many kinds, but they were quickly visited and appropriate action taken.

NOTICES SERVED

Informal	242
Statutory, Public Health Act, 1936, Section 45	19
Statutory, Public Health Act, 1936, Section 93	63

RESULTS OF NOTICES SERVED

Nuisances abated	216
Notices outstanding	26

RENT ACT, 1957

The following figures were submitted to the Ministry relating to applications for Certificates of Disrepair in 1958.

(1) Number of applications for certificates	55
(2) Number of decisions not to issue certificates	2
(3) Number of decisions to issue certificates	55
(a) in respect of some but not all defects	40
(b) in respect of all defects	15
(4) Number of undertakings given by landlords under paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	49
(5) Number of undertakings refused by Local Authority under proviso to paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	0
(6) Number of certificates issued	32

Applications for Cancellation of Certificates.

(7) Applications by landlords to Local Authority for Cancellation of Certificates	7
(8) Objections by tenants to cancellation of certificates	2
(9) Decisions by Local Authority to cancel in spite of tenants objection	1
(10) Certificates cancelled by Local Authority	5

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

The district is chiefly on the water carriage system. Some parts of the area are rural in character, and here no sewers exist, and water closets provided are drained to cesspools or sanitary pails provided. The Council's Cleansing Department carry out the regular emptying of the cesspools and pails.

DUSTBINS

A scheme under the Public Health Act is carried out for the provision and maintenance of dustbins. This scheme commenced in 1940 and has always been very popular and of immense value. An annual charge of 5s. 0d., recoverable with the General Rate, is made for each dustbin. By the end of 1958, 13,919 had been supplied including 950 in the last year, of which 592 were renewals.

DISINFESTATION

Houses of selected applicants for Council houses were visited prior to rehousing by this council to ascertain whether disinfestation was necessary. 280 visits were made. Work was done by means of Steam Disinfestation by qualified members of the department.

Minor infestations of bugs, fleas, cockroaches, ants, etc., were dealt with by means of insecticidal liquids or D.D.T. fumigation.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following cases of infectious disease or suspected cases were investigated during the year by the Public Health Inspectors.

Scarlet Fever	.. ..	26
Sonnei Dysentery	..	165
Food Poisoning	.. ..	42
Poliomyelitis	.. ..	1
		<hr/>
		234

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

RODENT CONTROL

The work of Rodent Control was continued throughout the year by the Rodent Operator under the supervision of the Public Health Inspectors.

Complaints were received from 197 premises and after investigations, appropriate action taken. Further infestations were discovered and dealt with. The baiting and poisoning of the sewers in this district continued.

1. Surface Disinfestation

The first table shows the properties inspected as a result of (1) notification; (2) survey; and (3) visits to premises primarily for some other purpose.

Local Authority	Type of Property			
	Dwelling houses	Agricultural	All other (inc. business premises)	Total
10	990	1	96	1097

The second table indicates the properties found to be infested with rats or mice and subsequently treated. All were classed as minor infestations.

Local Authority	Type of Property			
	Dwelling houses	Agricultural	All other (inc. business premises)	Total
6	174	—	54	234

2. Treatment of Sewers

1st Treatment—6th February to 13th February, 1958

No. of manholes in foul and connected systems	870 (approx.)
No. of manholes baited	56
No. of manholes showing pre-bait take	17
Scheme of baiting used	1st, 4th and 8th days.
Bait and Poison used	Bread Mash and Arsenic

2nd Treatment—8th July to 25th July, 1958

No. of manholes in foul and connected systems	2,000 (approx.)
No. of Manholes baited	129
No. of manholes showing pre-bait take	18
Scheme of baiting used	1st, 4th and 8th days.
Bait and poison used	Sausage Rusks and Zinc Phosphide.

SHOPS ACT, 1950

Inspections and visits to shops have been carried out periodically in connection with the above Act. Observations have been made in the evenings, on the weekly half-holiday and on Sundays to ascertain if the requirements relating to the Act are being observed. A total of 301 visits were made and, as shown in the following table, several contraventions were found. In six cases warning letters were sent by the Clerk of the Council, respecting the illegal trading and warning them that if any further contraventions were found summary proceedings would be instituted against them.

Requirements	Contraventions	Informal notices served	Statutory notices served
Part 1			
Early Closing Days	20	20	Nil
General Closing Hours	12	12	Nil
Part 2			
Statutory half-holiday & meal times	14	14	Nil
Hours of employment of young persons	3	3	Nil
Arrangements for health and comfort of Shop Workers ..	12	12	Nil
Part 4			
Sunday Trading	4	4	Nil

HEATING APPLIANCES (FIREGUARDS) ACT, 1952

This Act, together with Regulations made in 1953, requires fire-guards to be fitted to gas fires, electric fires and oil heaters which are so designed that they are suitable for use in residential premises and are of such a type that, without a guard there is likelihood of injury by burning.

During 1958, 79 appliances were inspected and tested in the manner prescribed by the Regulations.

One electric fire and two gas fires were found to be unsatisfactory. The electric fire was found to be on sale in a local shop, and was withdrawn from sale. The manufacturers carried out certain modification and sent to the Department one of the fires for retesting. The modified one proved to be satisfactory.

In the case of the two gas fires, these were returned to the manufacturers and on retesting later proved to be satisfactory.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

The Council's residential caravan site at Pye Green remains fully occupied.

At the beginning of the year a further site, for 16 caravans, was established in Longford Road, Cannock.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

During the year nine licences were granted for the keeping of Pet Shops. All licences were granted subject to conditions which ensure the objects of the Act being observed.

THE GAME ACT, 1831

One licence was granted to enable a shopkeeper to retail game.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

The following tables give details of factories inspected, defects found and remedied.

TABLE 13
INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO
HEALTH

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	7	6	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	123	66	1	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
Total	130	72	1	—

TABLE 14 **CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND**

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness	2	2	—	1	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature . .	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation . .	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Convenience:—					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Unsuitable or defective	5	5	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
Total	7	7	—	1	—

INVESTIGATION OF ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Work in connection with the recording of atmospheric pollution has continued throughout the year. Two Deposit Gauges, six Lead Peroxide instruments and one combined Smoke Filter and Volumetric Sulphur Dioxide apparatus have again been in use.

Every effort was made to secure the abatement or reduction of smoke, and similar emissions. Many observations of chimneys and spoil banks were made.

TABLE 15 **DEPOSIT GAUGES—RECORD OF DEPOSITS**

Month	Deposit in tons per Square Mile per month	
	Bridgtown	Littleworth
January	14.09	17.71
February	17.29	18.28
March	13.28	10.55
April	11.06	14.53
May	16.94	22.14
June	10.74	15.64
July	12.50	20.73
August	10.11	11.64
September	16.09	11.81
October	9.56	10.52
November	11.96	13.88
December	16.24	15.63
Totals	160.86	183.06
Monthly average, 1958	13.41	15.26
Monthly average, 1957	14.11	15.67

TABLE 16

LEAD PEROXIDE GAUGES—RECORD OF SULPHUR POLLUTION

Weight of Sulphur Trioxide collected in milligrammes per 100 sq. centimetres per day.

Month	Br'dg'own	Cannock	Pye Green	Hednesford	Wimblebury	Rumer Hill
January	1.92	7.27	3.66	1.75	3.10	2.53
February	2.28	3.45	5.33	1.37	1.39	5.75
March	1.86	1.62	1.32	1.48	1.63	1.69
April	2.20	1.06	0.77	1.08	1.37	1.98
May	2.39	0.88	0.76	1.53	0.94	1.08
June	0.97	0.86	0.85	0.73	1.08	1.21
July	0.80	0.47	0.41	0.50	0.72	1.29
August	0.64	0.41	0.45	0.39	0.62	0.79
September	0.99	1.14	0.73	0.73	1.03	1.14
October	1.21	0.93	0.86	0.95	1.82	1.39
November	1.52	1.27	1.69	1.94	2.88	0.95
December	8.02	2.06	1.93	1.76	2.19	2.72
Totals	24.80	21.42	18.76	14.21	18.77	22.52
Monthly averages:						
1958	2.07	1.79	1.56	1.18	1.56	1.88
1957	2.39	1.75	1.91	1.25	2.13	1.98

TABLE 17

SMOKE FILTER AND VOLUMETRIC SULPHUR DIOXIDE APPARATUS

Monthly average concentration of smoke and sulphur dioxide

Smoke	Milligrammes per cubic metre	Sulphur Dioxide	Parts per million
Average .. ..	.130	Average .. ..	.018
Highest .. ..	.524	Highest .. ..	.064
Lowest .. ..	.010	Lowest .. ..	.002

Public Cleansing

The work of the Cleansing Department, in its various aspects, particulars of which are indicated hereunder, has proceeded satisfactorily during the year.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The removal of refuse from domestic and trade premises has been maintained generally at a weekly frequency.

Five vehicles have been regularly engaged on the work, and their type and capacities are—three 7 cubic yard capacity and one 10 cubic yard capacity side loaders with sliding dustproof covers, and one Freighter rear loader with a 16—18 cubic yards capacity body in which the refuse is transferred mechanically from rear to front as loading proceeds.

Housing development throughout the area has determined a need for vehicles of larger body capacity and another 16—18 cubic yard capacity rear loader will subsequently supersede one of the 7 cubic yard vehicles.

The tonnage of refuse removed weekly averaged around 450 tons involving the emptying of some 13,000 bins.

Disposal of refuse has been by controlled tipping, mainly by manual levelling, but the increasing tonnage has indicated a need for the introduction of mechanical application to the spreading of the refuse, and subsequent effective soil covering to seal tip surfaces and embankments.

Builders spoil, soil and road sweeping material, has been used with good effect for sealing of surfaces and embankments.

The application of insecticides to tip surfaces as a deterrent to fly and other insect infestation has been regularly pursued.

The following tips have been in use during the year:—

BURGOYNE STREET land ex-gravel pit. Refuse from the central and northern parts of the area was continuously disposed of over the pool area at the western extremity of this site.

PRINCESS STREET, CHADSMOOR. Tipping operations, mainly of refuse from the central parts of the area, continued on this site adjoining the Stadium in order to raise the levels of the land for subsequent soiling and regrading to integrate with the adjoining playing field.

WATLING STREET, BRIDGTOWN. A further extension of refuse tipping at this privately owned site beyond that previously envisaged was proceeded with. It has proved to be a most useful site for disposal of refuse from the Bridgtown and Cannock areas, and improved appreciably a low lying water-logged piece of ground.

Most of the area tipped on has been finally covered with soil, graded to even contours, and restored to agricultural use.

WATLING STREET, CHURCHBRIDGE. This site has been little used due to concentration on the aforementioned site, and a large area of the clayhole comprising approximately three years tipping life for the Bridgtown and Cannock area still remains.

FROSPECT VILLAGE, CANNOCK WOOD. This site continues to accommodate refuse from the area in the immediate vicinity and there remains a life of several years here.

LITTLEWORTH ROAD. Tipping operations at this site were recommenced during the year, and refuse from the northern and eastern parts of the area has been deposited there.

The ultimate surface levels now determined for this site will allow of a tipping life of from eighteen months to two years.

FUTURE TIPPING SITES. This matter is still under review to determine as future policy the provision of tipping sites to serve the area for from five to twenty years after completion of the existing ones.

CESSPOOL CLEANSING

In the Cannock Wood and Pye Green areas where cesspools predominate a 750 gallon capacity tanker has been continuously employed in the emptying process.

The provision during the year of main drainage in parts of the Cannock Wood area resulting in the elimination of a number of cesspools, has enabled an improved frequency of emptying of generally two weeks and not exceeding three, to be maintained.

Cesspool contents are discharged into foul water sewers for ultimate sewage disposal works treatment.

GULLY CLEANSING

Street gullies throughout the area have received continuous rota treatment by either mechanical or manual emptying.

With the progressive reduction in the number of cesspools to be dealt with as mentioned above, greater use is being made of the secondary mechanical tanker on gully emptying to the reduction of manual treatment.

Gully contents are discharged at tip where, when dried out, the material is useful cover to house refuse.

STREET SCAVENGING

By a combination of manual sweeping on the 'beat' method with street orderly trucks, and 'lengthsmen' work using two gangs of men with two 25 cwt. capacity motor trucks, the district has been progressively treated.

Dependent on varying conditions, a fair standard of tidiness has been maintained, but much repeat work is still necessary on account of spillage of materials from lorries and thoughtless littering.

Shopping and town centres received daily treatment, and market refuse is cleared away immediately following termination of trading.

The introduction in August 1958 of the 'Litter Act,' and the provision of additional litter receptacles (which aspect is still being pursued where the need is apparent) did for a time indicate the prospect of improvement in the litter aspect.

It is regretted, however, that despite these provisions littering still remains a problem in certain parts of the area with its attendant increase in the work of scavenging beyond what could be considered as normal requirements.

PUBLIC SANITARY CONVENIENCES

The female's conveniences at Cannock and Hednesford have been maintained to a high standard of cleanliness by the lady cleaners in daily attendance.

Other conveniences throughout the area have received regular daily cleaning attention by a male employee of the department.

Considerable improvement in this respect has resulted from increased mobility afforded to the cleaner by the use of a motor vehicle, thus ensuring several visits per day to each convenience.

Even so these endeavours to maintain a good standard of cleanliness in the conveniences generally, is often negated by misuse.

Damage to water pipes, locks and fittings, defacing of walls and doors has been prevalent, and such irresponsible behaviour gives rise to increased maintenance costs.

The Council, conscious of the need to afford improved convenience facilities in the town centre of Cannock, have approved of a scheme for new conveniences in keeping with the increased need and modern requirements of this public service, and this will be brought to fruition at the earliest possible date

CONCLUSION

May I take this opportunity of expressing my sincere thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee; to all Members of the Council and to Chief Officers for the help given during the year.

I would particularly like to record my thanks to Doctor Webster, the Medical Officer of Health, for his co-operation, and to all the members of my staff for the conscientious manner in which they have carried out their duties.

I am,

Yours obediently,

J. BALL,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

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